UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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10/074,081	02/11/2002	Chen Sun		6680

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2172	6

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/074,081	SUN, CHEN
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Cam Y T Truong	2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-18 are pending in this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102
> of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject
> matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art
> to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was
> made.

3.   Claims 1-6, 8, 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Weyer et al (or hereinafter "Weyer") (USP 6671714) in view of Conley et al (or

hereinafter "Conley") (USP 6434745).

As to claim 1,Weyer teaches the claimed limitations:

"a plurality of virtual subdomain addresses with: i) differing domain names" as

contact database 115 may comprise one or more online directory servers, such as, for

example, www.411.com or www.switchboard.com. 411.com and switchboard.com are

represented as differing domain names (col. 3, lines 50-55),

"and ii) each of said virtual subdomain addresses has a person's name or

representation of his name as part the subdomain name" as 411 or switchboard are

represented as parts of the subdomain name (col. 3, lines 50-55),

"and iii) each of said virtual subdomain addresses when addressed using the

hypertext transfer protocol of an Internet-connected web browser displays said person's

associated contacts information on said browser" as the URL of the interface server

displays retrieved contact information for the selected recipient from the contact

database via Internet. This information indicates that the URL of the interface server

when addressed using the http of an Internet-connected web browser for display the

retrieved contact information to a user (col. 5, lines 30-60; col. 6, lines 1-25);

"and a data repository that stores said virtual subdomain addresses" as database

f115 store URLs as subdomain addresses (col. 3, lines 50-55),

" and an Internet data communications path" as a Internet connection to

communicate with an interface server (col. 3, lines 25-30),

"see the person's name on these subdomain addresses, activate these addresses

to send to the Internet, and receive the addresses' contacts information" as (fig. 5),

"whereby a user can quickly store his contacts' information using virtual

subdomain addresses of differing domain names" as (col. 6, lines 1-25).

Weyer does not explicitly teach the claimed limitations "and a computing display

facility for said virtual subdomain addresses and/or associated contacts information".

Conley teaches displaying a list of URLS and associated with email address as

contact information (fig. 11&7B).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Conley's teaching of displaying a list of URLs and

associated with email address to Weyer's system in order to allow a user to

communicate with other user via Internet system quickly and save time for

communicating with other users.

As to claims 2 and 8, Weyer teaches the claimed limitation "including A virtual subdomain address server that receives said virtual subdomain address or said virtual subdomain address's subdomain name, and returns said virtual subdomain address's associated contacts information to the sender through the Internet, whereby the person's contacts information can be served by a server and located by a virtual subdomain address" as (fig. 5, col. 5, lines 15-60).

As to claims 3-6, Weyer teaches the claimed limitation "including a search facility that can query the text of said data repository's virtual subdomain addresses' names, determine which names meet the search's criteria, and present for display the virtual subdomain addresses and/or associated contacts information that meet the search criteria, whereby the user can conduct a text search of the stored virtual subdomain addresses names" as (figs. 2-5).

As to claim 11, Weyer teaches the claimed limitations:

"providing a plurality of virtual subdomains addresses with: i) differing domain names, and ii) each of which has a person's name or representation of his name as part of the subdomain name" as contact database 115 may comprise one or more online directory servers, such as, for example, www.411.com or www.switchboard.com. 411.com and switchboard.com are represented as differing domain names (col. 3, lines 50-55),

"and iii) each of said virtual subdomain addresses when addressed using the hypertext transfer protocol of an Internet-connected web browser displays said person's associated contacts information on said browser" as the URL of the interface server displays retrieved contact information for the selected recipient from the contact database via Internet. This information indicates that the URL of the interface server when addressed using the http of an Internet-connected web browser for display the retrieved contact information to a user (col. 5, lines 30-60; col. 6, lines 1-25);

"and providing a computing data repository that stores said virtual subdomains addresses" as (col. 5, lines 50-60),

"and storing said virtual subdomain addresses in said data repository, whereby a user can quickly store his contacts' information using Internet addresses of differing domain names, and see the person's name on these subdomain addresses" as (col. 5, lines 50-65, col. 6, lines 1-25).

Weyer does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "and providing a computing display device that can display said virtual subdomain addresses and/or associated contacts information".

Conley teaches displaying a list of URLS and associated with email address as contact information (fig. 11&7B).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Conley's teaching of displaying a list of URLs and associated with email address to Weyer's system in order to allow a user to

communicate with other user via Internet system quickly and save time for

communicating with other users.

As to claim 12, Weyer teaches the claimed limitation "further including the below

steps added after step "storing said virtual subdomains in said data repository":

providing a data communications access to the Internet, and selecting and sending said

stored virtual subdomain addresses to the Internet, and receiving in return said selected

virtual subdomain addresses' associated contacts information, and displaying said

selected virtual subdomain address and/or associated contacts information, whereby

the person's contacts information can be located and retrieved by a virtual subdomain

address" as (col. 5, lines 50-60).

As to claim 13, Weyer and Conley discloses the claimed limitation subject matter

in claim 11, Conley further teaches the claimed limitation "selecting and sending said

stored virtual subdomain addresses to the Internet, and": a) providing a virtual

subdomain address server that receives said virtual subdomain address or said virtual

subdomain address's subdomain name, and processes and sends through the Internet

virtual subdomain address's associated contacts information, and b) receiving the said

selected virtual subdomain addresses by said virtual subdomain address server, and

said server sending out said selected virtual subdomain addresses's associated

contacts information" as (figs. 7&8).

As to claim 14, Weyer teaches the claimed limitation "further including the below steps added after step "storing said virtual subdomains in said data repository": providing a text search facility, and querying the text of said virtual subdomain addresses names using the search facility, and determining which addresses names meet the search's criteria, and displaying the virtual subdomain addresses and/or their associated contacts information that meet the search criteria, whereby the user can conduct a text search of the stored virtual subdomain addresses names" as (figs.2-5, col. 5, lines 50-67).

As to claim 15, Weyer teaches the claimed limitation "further including the below steps added after step "storing said virtual subdomains in said data repository": providing a search facility, and providing a data communications path to and from the Internet, and querying said stored virtual subdomain addresses' associated contacts information using the said search facility and accessing the Internet, and displaying the virtual subdomain addresses and/or associated contacts information that meet the search criteria, whereby the user can conduct a search of the stored virtual subdomain addresses' content" as (col. 3, lines 1-55; col. 5, lines 30-60).

4.   Claims 7, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weyer et al (or hereinafter "Weyer") (USP 6671714) in view of Conley et al (or

hereinafter "Conley") (USP 6434745) and further in view of Chandra et al (or hereinafter "Chandra") (USP 6457047).

As to claim 7, Weyer teaches the claimed limitation "including a facility that can receive selective data from the associated contacts information of said virtual subdomain address, and said data repository contains a database containing a field for said virtual subdomain address and containing fields for said selective data received, and a search facility to query on said repository and/or database, determine which contacts information in said database meets the search's criteria, and present for display virtual subdomain addresses and/or associated contacts information that meet the search criteria" as (col. 5, lines 25-60).

Weyer does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "whereby the user can conduct a faster database search through its own, usually local, database rather than having to access the Internet for each virtual subdomain content search".

Chandra teaches that searching cached web page on local computer (col. 1, lines 10-20).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Chandra's teaching of searching cached web page on local computer to Weyer's system in order to save time for searching/retrieving web page.

As to claims 9 and 10, Weyer discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 7, except the claimed limitation "wherein Said search facility can query said data

repository and/or database when the system is without Internet access, whereby the

user can use the system without its Internet access". Chandra teaches that searching

cached web page on local computer (col. 1, lines 10-20).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to apply Chandra's teaching of searching cached web page on

local computer to Weyer's system in order to save time for searching/retrieving web

page.

5.   Claims 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Weyer et al (or hereinafter "Weyer") (USP 6671714) in view of Chandra et al (or

hereinafter "Chandra") (USP 6457047).

As to claim 16, Weyer teaches the claimed limitations:

"providing a plurality of virtual subdomain addresses with: i) differing domain

names, and ii) each of said virtual subdomain addresses has a person's name or

representation of his name as part the subdomain name" as contact database 115 may

comprise one or more online directory servers, such as, for example, www.411.com or

www.switchboard.com. 411.com and switchboard.com are represented as differing

domain names (col. 3, lines 50-55),

"and iii) each of said virtual subdomain addresses when addressed using the

hypertext transfer protocol of an Internet-connected web browser displays said person's

associated contacts information on said browser" as " as the URL of the interface server

displays retrieved contact information for the selected recipient from the contact

database via Internet. This information indicates that the URL of the interface server when addressed using the http of an Internet-connected web browser for display the retrieved contact information to a user (col. 5, lines 30-60; col. 6, lines 1-25),

"and providing a database which one of its fields can hold virtual subdomain address and other fields can hold associated contacts information, and storing said virtual subdomain addresses into said virtual subdomain address field, and extracting, through the Internet" as a database store contact information for each member of the group. The contact information includes email address and URL. The server retrieves contact information for the selected recipient from the contact database (col. 5, lines 45-60),

"selective contacts information associated with said stored virtual subdomains addresses, and storing said extracted contacts information into respective fields of said database" as (col. 5, lines 45-60).

Weyer does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "whereby the user can store selective contacts information and eventually conduct a faster database search through its own, usually local database, rather than having to access the Internet for each virtual subdomain content search". Chandra teaches that searching cached web page on local computer (col. 1, lines 10-20).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Chandra's teaching of searching cached web page on local computer to Weyer's system in order to save time for searching/retrieving web page.

As to claim 17, Weyer teaches the claimed limitation "storing said extracted

contacts information into respective fields of said database,": providing a search facility

to query the said database and querying said database, and presenting the virtual

subdomain addresses and/or their associated contacts information that meet the search

criteria" as (col. 5, lines 30-60). William further teach the claimed limitation "whereby

the user can conduct a faster database search through its own, usually local database,

rather than having to access the Internet for each virtual subdomain content search" as

(col. 1, lines 10-25).

As to claim 18, Weyer and Chandra teaches the claimed limitation subject matter

in claim 16, Chandra further teach the claimed limitation subject matter "Said search

facility can query said data repository and/or database when the system is without

Internet access, whereby the user can use the system without its Internet access" as

(col. 1, lines 10-25).

Conclusion

6.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure

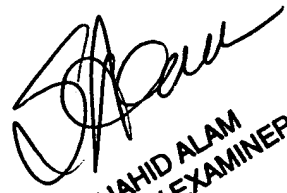Sitaraman et al (USP 6243794).

Contact Information

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam-Y Truong whose telephone number is (703-605-1169). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 8:00AM to 4:00PM.

Ifattempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene, can be reached on (703-305-9790). The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).

Cam-Y Truong

4/28/04

SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER